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Steamers offer memories and family fun — 4B

# Mark your calendars: Town honors Jones

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

Edenton businessman Frank Jones is receiving a special honor that comes to very few — he is having a day named in his honor. On Monday afternoon, Jones was joined at Town Hall by his wife Barbara as well as representatives of the Edenton Baptist Men's group and American Legion Post 40 to watch as Mayor Pro Tem Steve Biggs signed a proclamation declaring this Saturday, July 14 as Frank Jones Day in Edenton.

On that same day, a breakfast will be held at Edenton

Baptist; lunch and dinner plates will be available at the Legion. All proceeds will go toward helping Jones raise the necessary \$20,000 to help with living and other expenses while he is at Duke undergoing lung transplant surgery and afterward as he will be required to remain near the hospital for an extended period of time so he can get there quickly should the need arise. The operation itself is expected to cost about \$1.5 million, part of which will be covered by insurance.

Jones, who appeared to have been caught by surprise by the proclamation's

issuance, said he was deeply touched by all of the support that has and continues to be offered community.

"This is unbelievable, this is quite an honor," he said. "I don't quite know what to say."

Biggs read the proclamation during the brief ceremony. It includes these words written in tribute to Jones: "Frank Jones has dedicated his life to serving his community as a faithful member of the Edenton-Chowan Kiwanis Club, a deacon at St. Anne Catholic Church, a member of Amer-

See JONES, 3A



REBECCA BUNCH/CHOWAN HERALD

Monday, town leaders enacted a proclamation declaring Saturday as Frank Jones Day in the Town of Edenton. (Left to right) Mayor Pro Tem Steve Biggs, Frank Jones (holding proclamation) and his wife Barbara Jones strike a pose for posterity.



## Taylor Theater reopens

"Ant-Man and The Wasp," the latest superhero movie based on the Marvel Comics characters, opened in Edenton on Thursday but few of those crowding into the Taylor Theater were talking about the film. — 1B



## Inside Daedalus Yachts

Mention the company 'Daedalus Yachts' at Waterman's Tavern in Downtown Edenton and you get a curious look. Most of the locals have 'heard of them' and most have certainly seen some of the international team walking town around this past year and half. — 4A



## Cadets attend camp

While many high school students enjoy the break from the school year six John A. Holmes JROTC cadets participated in one of the nation's premier high school leadership training camps. — 2B



## Alumnus heads to ECU

Like many newly minted Aces' alumni who are attending college orientation sessions this summer, Savannah Webb took her first step toward freedom, a new life. — 6A

## Algal warning issued

A state agency is warning the public to avoid contact with a bluish-green algal bloom in the Chowan River off Chowan Beach. — 2A



CHOWAN-EDENTON OPTIMIST CLUB

Chowan-Edenton Optimist Club provided fireworks for an amazing Fourth of July celebration.

# Fourth events attract visitors, residents

BY REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

Colonial Park in the downtown Edenton waterfront proved to be a perfect place to spend celebrating Independence Day with family and friends. Under blue skies filled with puffy clouds and cool breezes, visitors settled on park benches and got to know each other on a first name basis.

Among them were Carl and Debbie Downing of Richmond, Va., who said this was their second time spending July 4 in Edenton.

"We were here when our kids were small," Debbie said. "Carl's mom, Dorothy Chestnutt, lived here. We've also come for the Christmas tour."

Carl said he was particularly impressed by that morning's ceremony that included the reading of the Declaration of Independence. For a community such as Edenton that is steeped in history, it was the perfect start to the day,

he said. Carl praised the well-organized event hosted by the Edenton Tea Party Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and included patriotic music as well as a biographical sketch of Joseph Hewes, an Edenton patriot who signed the document on behalf of North Carolina.

"We really enjoyed that," Carl said. "We've had a good day today. The people here are so friendly."

Maya Tillett of Portsmouth, Va., said it was family ties that brought her home too.

"My grandparents live here so this is not just a celebration for us, it's something of a family reunion," she said. "It's one of the ways we make time to spend together on the Fourth."

"It's really relaxing and there's something for everyone to do," Tillett added, "whether it's enjoying the good food, the fireworks and the music or just getting a chance to spend the

See FOURTH, 3A

# 'Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

The Edenton Tea Party chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution hosted the traditional reading of the Declaration of Independence as part of the Fourth of July festivities. More than 500 people attended the service with District Court Judge Meader Harriss reading the document.

Harriss spoke in a determined, firm voice that brought the words to life that inspired the colonies to throw off their chains and become a new nation.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,

that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," Harriss recited to a crowd gathered at the Courthouse Green.

Noted musician and retired educator Joseph Manley led the National Anthem and sang America the Beautiful. Unanimity Lodge #7 laid a wreath at the base of the monument honoring Joseph Hewes, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Retired Navy veteran Frank Jones III talked about Hewes' life.

"Because of men like Joseph Hewes, we enjoy the life, liberty and justice

See DECLARATION, 4A

# Radke shares tax collection data with commission

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

County Tax Administrator Melissa Radke offered an eloquent number-driven snapshot of the tax collections for 2017/18 during the Chowan County Commission meeting held July 2 — a couple days before the county celebrated the birthday of a new nation inspired by a tax revolt.

Unlike the Colonist's assertions to Britain of "No taxation without representation," the county elects its representatives to make fis-

cal policy. "Taxation with representation ain't so hot either." — humorist Gerald Barzan.

A county tax department's duty is to calculate and collect the taxes that fund schools, infrastructure and law enforcement. Commissioners authorized a half cent tax increase from \$0.74 to \$0.745 for 2018/19 fiscal year in June.

Required by state law, a county tax administrator presents a Property Tax Settlement report that shows the commission what the tax department has accom-

plished. Commissioners approved the report that had to be accepted before the county tax office is authorized to move forward with next year's tax levy.

During fiscal year 2017/18, more than \$9 million dollars of property taxes was collected with about \$1.244 million in personal taxes and more than \$15,000 from vehicle taxes for a total of about \$10.2 million.

The total of real property that is delinquent — \$160,377 — and personal

See RADKE, 3A



MILES LAYTON/CHOWAN HERALD

County Tax Administrator Melissa Radke delivers a very detailed power-point presentation about tax collection during a recent Chowan County Commission meeting.

# Ballot begins to take shape

BY MILES LAYTON  
Editor

As of Tuesday morning before the press deadline, here is the latest update of candidates who have filed for Edenton-Chowan Board of Education or as a Soil and Water Conservation District supervisor.

As soon as the filing deadlines close, the Chowan Herald will be publishing profiles of these candidates.

Filing for four of the seven seats on the BOE ends Friday, July 27.

George A Nelson of Drummond's Point and Maxine Mason of Tyner filed have for the at-large seat.

Ricky Browder filed for re-election to BOE for District 2, Seat 2.

BOE District 3 Seat 1 candidates are Nancy Heiniger and Gil Burroughs, who is running for re-election.

The filing period for two of the three seats as a Soil and Water Conservation District supervisor ended July 6.

John T. Layton and Matthew Floyd have filed as candidates for Soil and Water District Supervisor.

Worth noting, when filing for District Court Judge ended June 29, District Court Judge Meader Harriss of Edenton, who is running for re-election, was only name on the ballot for that judicial race for District 1/Seat 3.

And District Attorney R. Andrew Womble of Edenton is the only candidate in his bid for re-election for District 1.



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